

**SECRET**

14 October 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with [REDACTED] Deputy Comptroller 25X1A

25X1A 1. [REDACTED] said that he assumed the list of questions called for written  
25X1A replies and he wanted to know how much time his office had to prepare comments  
25X1A on the questions. [REDACTED] said that four weeks was the time given to  
prepare office reports on the period 1953-1956.

2. [REDACTED] said that during the period DD/P components had become  
more cooperative regarding support functions and more conscious of the  
management functions as opposed to just operations. He stated that all  
elements of the Agency had been giving better cooperation in this respect.  
Operating components of DD/P had come to recognize the necessity for the  
Comptroller, the Director of Logistics and the Director of Personnel to  
know more about DD/P operations in order that support services could be  
more effectively rendered to them. The result was a modification of the  
~~result~~ need to know restrictions and the compartmentalization requirements.  
The result has been a more realistic approach to budget matters, the rendering  
of better support services, the reduction of costs, improvement of methods.  
While a good deal was accomplished during the period 1953-1956, some of  
the changes were initiated earlier and some important improvements have come  
since the period under discussion.

25X1A 3. [REDACTED] next commented on the value of the orientation course. He  
said that he had just come to appreciate this course.

4. The Office of the Comptroller has decentralized greater fiscal  
responsibility to the PP staff and to field stations. All persons going

HS/HC-153

**SECRET**

**SECRET**

overseas are well trained to do the support work in the field. When financial officers return from overseas, they are given refresher courses on what has taken place. Among the financial officers of ~~in~~/the higher levels there has not been a great amount of attrition. The Comptroller's Office now had a number of officers who had rotated ~~with~~ between headquarters and field positions several times. These experienced officers are better able to understand the problems which come up at both ends, in headquarters and in the field.

5. During the period there have been improvements in financial control over properties, in funding activities, in funding cover activities, in financial control of proprietary companies, and in fiscal control.

6. He said that he would talk with [REDACTED] about the questions and the preparation of written answers. He did not know at the moment whom he might ask to do the job.

25X1A

7. He said that the financial statement which goes to the Director and his Deputy is very closely held. He agreed that it would be impossible to write a history of the Agency without access to budgetary and financial data. He said that he would order from the Records Center the two boxes which made up Job 58-436 and would inform the Historical Staff when these boxes arrived at the Office of the Comptroller.

8. He did not ask to see ~~what~~ any historical studies of earlier periods that might have been prepared by the Historical Staff. He did mention, however, the history of the Comptroller during the Smith regime which was prepared by the Office of the Comptroller.

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25X1A

HS/HIC-153